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PCT

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA00/00971

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DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR,  
HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR,  
LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ,  
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KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian  
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patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE,  
IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG,  
CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

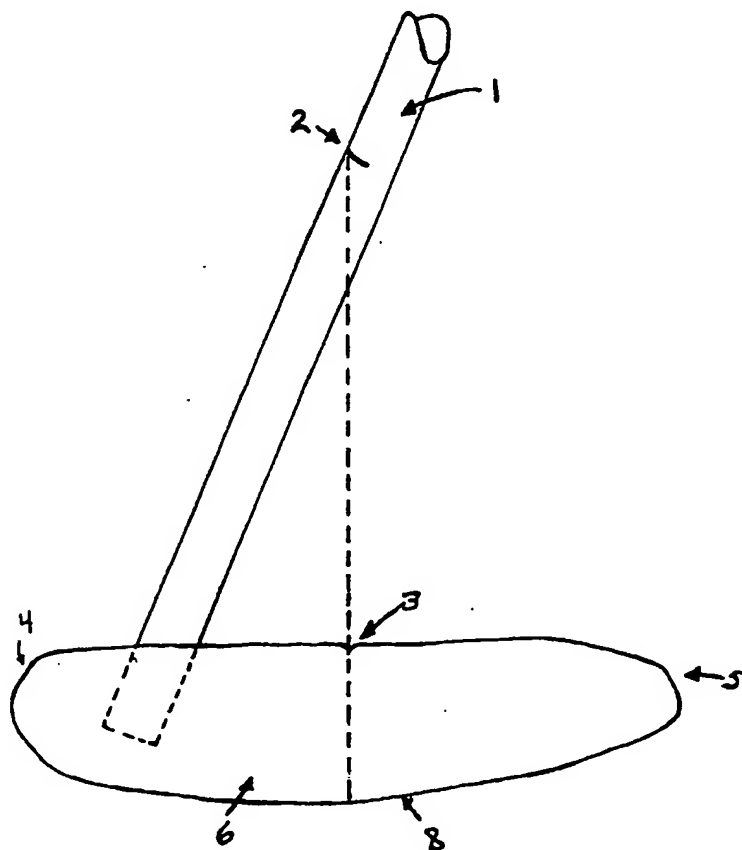
**Published:**

- with international search report
- with amended claims

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ,

(54) Title: GOLF PUTTING ALIGNMENT SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A putting system using an alignment mark (2) on the top of a shaft in relation to the centerline mark (3) on the putter head. A golf putting alignment system that has a putter, which has the shaft (1) attached to the head of the putter between the centerline mark (3) and the toe (4) of the putter. The putter head is now closer to the golfer making it easier for the golfer to get over a putt. The shaft (1) is at an acute angle to the heel position and extends directly over the length of putter head in direction away from the toe. Attaching the shaft in this position causes the shaft to extend back over putter head, thus crossing the centerline mark (3) on the head. An alignment mark (2) is placed on the shaft directly over the position the shaft crosses the centerline mark (3). The golfer lines the putter's face (6) square to the desired path the ball is to travel. The golfer then aligns the alignment mark (2) on the shaft to the centerline mark (3) on the head, the putter head becomes square to the target line and brings the golfer's eyes perpendicular over the putt as it should be.

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Golf putting alignment system has a putter, which includes a head having a shaft portion on which an alignment mark is formed. This mark allows a golfer to use the club shaft in a manner to properly align the putter head relative to an intended path of ball travel and to align the golfer's eyes relative to the ball.

The shaft is attached to the putter head between the centerline mark and the toe of the head. The shaft is attached to the toe end of the head opposite to that of a conventional putter. The putter head is now closer to the golfer making it easier for the golfer to get over the putt. The shaft is at an acute angle to the heel position and extends directly over the length of putter head in direction away from the toe. Attaching the shaft in this position causes the shaft to extend back over putter head, thus crossing the centerline mark on the head. It also makes the shaft run parallel to the face of the putter making it easier to square the face to the target line.

The centerline mark crosses the width of the putter. An alignment mark is placed on the top of the shaft directly over the position the shaft crosses the centerline mark.

A golfer lines the putter face at a right angle to the desired path the ball is to travel. Then aligns the alignment mark on the top of the shaft to the centerline mark on the head, the putter head becomes square to the target line and brings the golfer's eyes perpendicular over the putt as they should be. In effect, the club shaft is used as part of the aiming arrangement both to assist a golfer in squaring the putter and to correctly set up the golfer over a putt.

### Drawings

In the drawings, which form a part of this specification.

Fig. 1 is side view of the face of a right-handed putter with the shaft attached towards the toe. The numbers in this drawing represent the following part of the putter;

- 1 - Shaft
- 2 - Alignment mark on top of the shaft which lines up with the centerline on the head
- 3 - Centerline on top of putter head
- 4 - Toe
- 5 - Heel
- 6 - Face
- 8 - Sole

Fig. 2 is a top view of a left-handed putter. The numbers in the drawing represent the same parts, as in Fig. 1 the only different number is 7 - Back.

Fig. 3 shows a golfer positioned over a putter using this system of putting alignment. It shows the putter pointing towards the golfer with the golfer's eyes clearly over the putter.

## DESCRIPTION

**Title of Invention – Golf Putting Alignment System**

### Technical Field

The invention relates to the game of golf and more importantly to a golf putter having an alignment arrangement based on the position of the shaft over the centerline mark on the putter head.

### Background of the Invention

Putting plays an important role in a successful round of golf. In order to technically execute a proper putt a golfer must be properly positioned relative to the ball and to an intended line of the putt. A putter has a striking face, which should be aligned square to the desired path of the ball travel.

It is known that an alignment centerline is placed on the top surface of the putter to aid a golfer in positioning the face of a putter square to the target line of the putt. Typically, this centerline or aiming line is perpendicular to the face and is positioned at the desired area of putter to ball impact.

In addition to having the putter face aligned to the intended target line a golfer must be in the proper position relative to the ball to have proper golf techniques. The eyes of the golfer should be over the ball so that when the ball is struck the putter is returned to the proper position to send the ball on its desired target line.

It takes regular practice to develop a putting stance and stroke to propel a golf ball on its intended target line. Golfers of all skill levels have been shown to find this eye position and putter alignment difficult to maintain over time.

An object of the invention is to provide a putter that can be used to indicate when proper alignments have been attained for stroking a golf ball.

A putter that uses a shaft to facilitate alignment of a putter head and a golfer's head relative to a ball and a desired path of ball travel is shown, for example, in the following United States of America patent 5,564,990 – Weeks.

Though such a putter has achieved popularity and commercial success, there has been a continuing need for improvement.

### Summary of the Invention

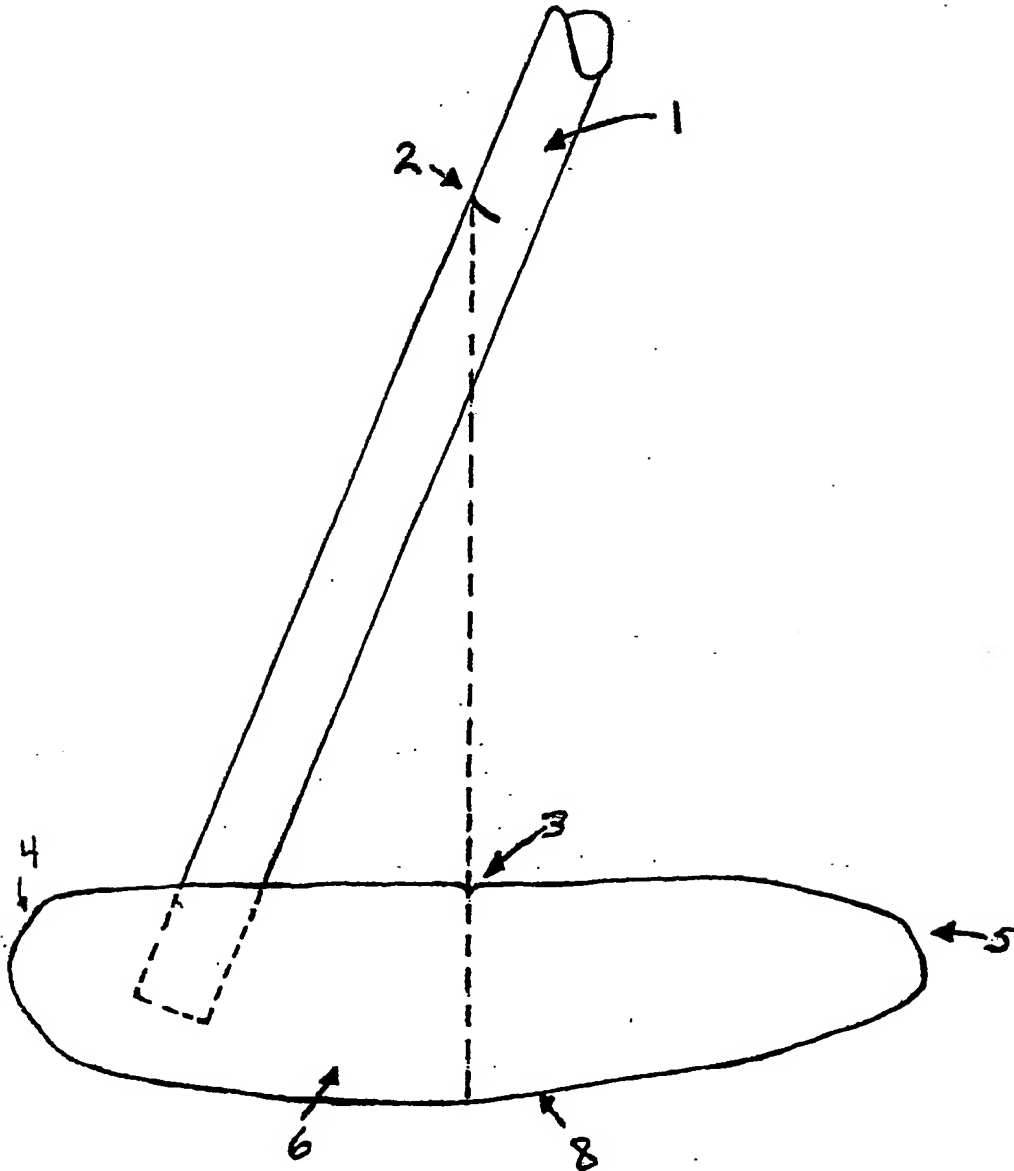
The above object has been met by a golf putting alignment system that uses the shaft attached between the centerline mark and the toe of the putter head to facilitate proper alignment of the putter head and golfer's eyes relative to a ball and a desired path of ball travel.

**CLAIMS****Title of Invention – Golf Putting Alignment System**

The embodiment of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

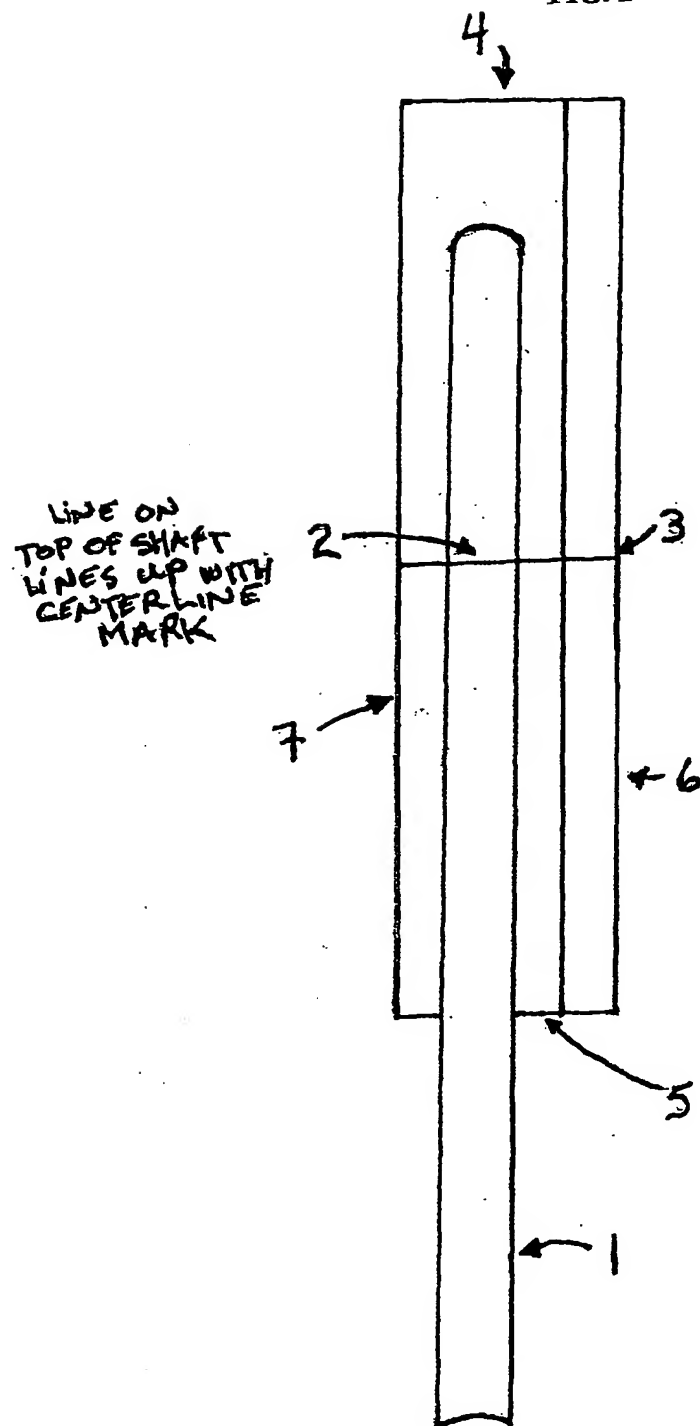
1. A golf putting alignment system that uses two reference marks, one on the putter's head and one on the putter's shaft that indicates to a golfer when their eyes are perpendicular over the center of a putter head when the putter is in the putting position.
2. This position of having the golfer's eyes perpendicularly over the putter center can only be achieved by having two points of reference or marks, which line up vertically with one another. The first reference point is marked on the putter head and the second is directly above it.
3. To achieve a perpendicular alignment of the marks, one of the marks is on the center top of the putter head running from the face to the back. The second mark can only be placed on the putter's shaft where the shaft crosses the centerline of the putter head, as viewed from above.
4. The putter shaft must be attached to the putter between the toe and the centerline of the putter and extend back over the putter head so that the second mark can be applied to the shaft in a position that is directly above the centerline mark.
5. The exact position of the second mark on the putter shaft is determined by projecting a perpendicular line from the centerline of the putter head to where it intersects the shaft. It is at this intersection that the second mark is placed on the shaft. This is the only point on the shaft where a mark can be made that enables the golfer's sight line to be perpendicular to the centerline of the putter head.
6. Golfers now only have to visually align the mark on the shaft to the centerline mark on the putter head to know that they now have their eyes perpendicular over the putter head.
7. Any putter can be modified to use this system by moving the shaft forward of the centerline and attaching it so that it extends back over the length of the putter head. A mark is then placed on the shaft at a point that is perpendicular to the centerline as described in claim 5.

FIG. 1



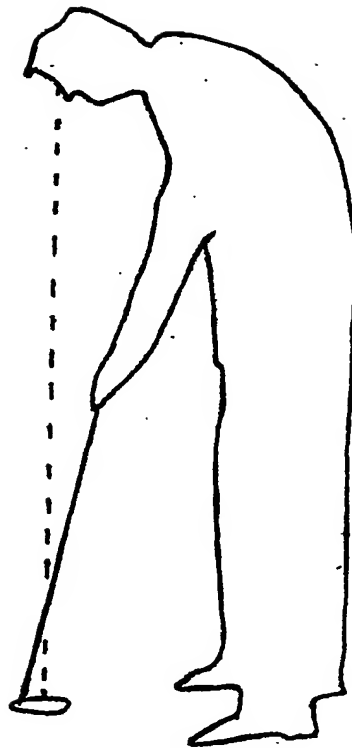
2/3

FIG. 2



3/3

Fig. 3





# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CA 00/00971

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 A63B53/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A63B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 549 300 A (PELZ DAVID T) 22 December 1970 (1970-12-22) column 2, line 69 -column 4, line 10; figures 1-6	1-9
X	US 1 631 504 A (REDMAN CHARLES H) 7 June 1927 (1927-06-07) page 1, line 98 -page 2, line 25; figures 1-4	1-4
X	US 4 411 429 A (DREW JOHN W ET AL) 25 October 1983 (1983-10-25) column 2, line 31 -column 3, line 31; figures 1-4	1-3
A		10

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

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\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*8\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 November 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/12/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Levert, C

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/CA 00/00971

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3549300	A	22-12-1970	NONE	
US 1631504	A	07-06-1927	NONE	
US 4411429	A	25-10-1983	NONE	

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE  
COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

To:

LISTER, Gary, R.  
301 Hemlock St.  
Cultus Lake, British Columbia V2R  
4Y7  
CANADA

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

11 October 2001 (11.10.01)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

International application No.

PCT/CA00/00971

International filing date (day/month/year)

28 August 2000 (28.08.00)

Priority date (day/month/year)

03 April 2000 (03.04.00)

Applicant

LISTER, Gary, R.

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice:  
KP, KR, US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EE, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OA, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN,

The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 11 October 2001 (11.10.01) under No. WO 01/74466

## REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

If the applicant wishes to postpone entry into the national phase until 30 months (or later in some Offices) from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed with the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor the 18-month time limit.

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

## REMINDER REGARDING ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE (Article 22 or 39(1))

If the applicant wishes to proceed with the international application in the national phase, he must, within 20 months or 30 months, or later in some Offices, perform the acts referred to therein before each designated or elected Office.

For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

J. Zahra

Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

Form PCT/IB/308 (July 1996)

4342847

TOTAL P.03

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/CA 00/ 00971	International filing date (day/month/year) 28/08/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 03/04/2000
Applicant LISTER, Gary, R.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

## 1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

GOLF PUTTING ALIGNMENT SYSTEM

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1



None of the figures.

**B x III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)**

A putting system using an alignment mark (2) on the top of a shaft in relation to the centerline mark (3) on the putter head.

A golf putting alignment system that has a putter, which has the shaft (1) attached to the head of the putter between the centerline mark (3) and the toe (4) of the putter. The putter head is now closer to the golfer making it easier for the golfer to get over a putt. The shaft (1) is at an acute angle to the heel position and extends directly over the length of putter head in direction away from the toe. Attaching the shaft in this position causes the shaft to extend back over putter head, thus crossing the centerline mark (3) on the head. An alignment mark (2) is placed on the shaft directly over the position the shaft crosses the centerline mark (3). The golfer lines the putter's face (6) square to the desired path the ball is to travel. The golfer then aligns the alignment mark (2) on the shaft to the centerline mark (3) on the head, the putter head becomes square to the target line and brings the golfer's eyes perpendicular over the putt as it should be.

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X	US 4 411 429 A (DREW JOHN W ET AL) 25 October 1983 (1983-10-25) column 2, line 31 -column 3, line 31; figures 1-4 -----	1-3
A		10



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Date of mailing of the international search report

05/12/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Lever, C

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/ISA 00/00971

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3549300	A	22-12-1970	NONE	
US 1631504	A	07-06-1927	NONE	
US 4411429	A	25-10-1983	NONE	